What is Claimed is:

[c1] A serializer/deserializer for data, comprising:

    a transmitter for transmitting the data;

    a receiver for receiving the data; and

    a self-test circuit coupling data transmitted from the transmitter of the receiver, and for reducing the time period during which data can be received by the receiver.

[c2] 2. A self-test system for randomly adjusting the time period in which data windows are present in a data signal, comprising:

    a time adjust system introducing time changes in a data window during which the signal may be sensed; and

    an activator enables on a random time basis the time adjust system to introduce time delays in the data window.

[c3] 3. The self-test system of claim 2, wherein the time adjust system introduces a time delay in the opening of the time window.

[c4] 4. The self-test system of claim 2, wherein the time adjust system introduces an advance in the closing of the time window.

[c5] 5. The self-test system of claim 2, wherein the activator includes a random digital number generator.

[c6] 6. The self-test system of claim 5, wherein the random digital number generator comprises a linear feedback shift register.

[c7] 7. The self-test system of claim 5, wherein the activator includes a decoder for detecting presence of a defined sequence of digital code in the random digital number output of the random digital number generator.

[c8] 8. The self-test system of claim 2, wherein the activator includes a random digital number generator; and a decoder for detecting presence of a defined sequence of digital code in the random digital number output of the random digital number generator.

[c9]   9. A data communication system, comprising: a transmitter for transmitting the data;

a receiver for receiving the data; and

a self-test system for randomly adjusting the time period in which data windows are present in a data signal.

[c10]   10. The data communication system wherein the self-test system comprises:

a time adjust system introducing time changes in a data window during which the signal may be sensed; and

an activator for periodically activating on a random basis the time adjust system to introduce time delays in the data window.

[c11]   11. The data communication system of claim 10, wherein the time adjust system introduces a time delay in the opening of the time window.

[c12]   12. The data communication system of claim 10, wherein the time adjust system introduces an advance in the closing of the time window.

[c13]   13. The data communication system of claim 10, wherein the activator includes a random digital number generator.

[c14]   14. The data communication system of claim 13, wherein the random digital number generator comprises a linear feedback shift register.

[c15]   15. The data communication system of claim 14, wherein the activator includes a decoder for detecting presence of a defined sequence of digital code in the random digital number output of the random digital number generator.

[c16]   16. The data communication system of claim 10, wherein the activator includes:

a random digital number generator; and

a decoder for detecting presence of a defined sequence of digital code in the random digital number output of the random digital number generator.